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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

15 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
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Plaintiff,

17 v.
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DURK BANKS, et al.,
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Defendants.
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No. CR 2:24-621(B)-MWF

GOVERNMENT'S EX PARTE APPLICATION
FOR ORDER SEALING DOCUMENTS;
MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND
AUTHORITIES; DECLARATION OF DANIEL
H. WEINER

23 Plaintiff United States of America hereby applies ex parte for
24 an order directing that the government's Exhibits A-B attached to the
25 government's Notice of Lodging Under Seal Exhibits and Supplemental
26 Memorandum in Opposition to Defendant Banks' Motion in Limine to
27 Exclude Rule 404(b) Evidence in the above-entitled case be kept under
28 seal until further order of the Court.

1 This ex parte application is based upon the attached memorandum
2 of points and authorities and Declaration of Daniel H. Weiner.

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4 Dated: January 2, 2026

Respectfully submitted,

5 BILAL A. ESSAYLI
6 First Assistant United States
Attorney

7 ALEXANDER B. SCHWAB
8 Assistant United States Attorney
Acting Chief, Criminal Division

9 /s/
10 IAN V. YANNIELLO
11 GREGORY W. STAPLES
12 DANIEL H. WEINER
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Attorneys for Plaintiff
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

Plaintiff United States of America requests that this Court seal the government's Exhibits A-B attached to the government's Notice of Lodging Under Seal Exhibits and Supplemental Memorandum in Opposition to Defendant Banks' Motion in Limine to Exclude Rule 404(b) Evidence.

The Court has inherent supervisory authority to seal documents in appropriate circumstances. See Nixon v. Warner Communications, Inc., 435 U.S. 589, 598 (1978) ("Every court has supervisory power over its own records and files . . .").

Here, for the reasons described in the attached declaration, sealing of these documents is necessary to protect the identity of unindicted co-conspirators and/or witnesses who participated in the government's investigation, who may testify at trial, and/or whose safety or whose family's safety may be endangered by disclosure of identifying information.

The government accordingly requests that the documents be maintained under seal until further order of the Court.

Dated: January 2, 2026

Respectfully submitted,

BILAL A. ESSAYLI
First Assistant United States
Attorney

ALEXANDER B. SCHWAB
Assistant United States Attorney
Acting Chief, Criminal Division

/s/
IAN V. YANNIELLO
GREGORY W. STAPLES
DANIEL H. WEINER
Assistant United States Attorneys

Attorneys for Plaintiff
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DECLARATION OF DANIEL H. WEINER

I, Daniel H. Weiner, declare as follows:

1. I am an Assistant United States Attorney for the Central District of California and I am one the attorneys assigned to the prosecution of United States v. Durk Banks, et al., No. CR 24-621(B)-MWF. I make this declaration in support of the government's ex parte application for an order sealing the government's Exhibits A-B attached to the government's Notice of Lodging Under Seal Exhibits and Supplemental Memorandum in Opposition to Defendant Banks' Motion in Limine to Exclude Rule 404(b) Evidence.

2. The government requests leave to file these documents under seal. The above-described documents discuss and/or contain identifying information of unindicted co-conspirators and/or witnesses who participated in the government's investigation, who may testify at trial, and/or whose safety or whose family's safety may be endangered by disclosure of identifying information. Sealing of the documents is therefore desirable because the government believes that public disclosure of such information may endanger the witnesses and/or their family's safety, and could cause others to attempt to intimidate the witnesses and/or their family, or otherwise dissuade the witnesses from cooperating with the government.

3. Accordingly, the government requests that the documents be kept under seal until further order of the Court.

4. On December 31, 2025, the government informed defense counsel that it would be seeking to file these documents under seal and solicited any objection. As of the date of this filing, the government has not received any objection from defense counsel.

1 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United
2 States of America that the foregoing is true and correct to the best
3 of my knowledge and belief and that this declaration was executed on
4 January 2, 2026, at Los Angeles, California.

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7 /s/ Daniel H. Weiner
8 DANIEL H. WEINER
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